

# EDITORIALS

## The Community Chest

Chairman Tommy Thompson of the Harbor Area 1954-55 Community Chest Campaign, has just announced district chairmen who will have charge of this year's important campaign in their respective communities. In Torrance, Mrs. E. L. Schwartz will be in command and she must be given the full support of this community in meeting its share of responsibilities in the all-important work of the Community Chest.

The many services of the Community Chest are needed particularly in the Los Angeles area where rapid growth in all directions each year imposes new demands on the funds of the organization. It follows that every individual with an income has a share of responsibility in making the fund drive a success, and it is as important a responsibility as any other obligation implied by good citizenship.

In recent years there has been a tendency to undermine the keystone argument for community chest giving—that of the single appeal. Organizations have sprung up at every hand asking for funds for a dozen and one causes. All have merit; but, the duplication of effort and operational expense seriously is impairing the future stability of the community chest idea.

Revelations of the costs involved in some fund campaigns, notably those employing high-powered television appeals, amount to a national scandal. In all cases, it must be conceded, most of the contributors of hundreds of thousands of dollars felt they were allied with a good cause and gave sincerely. Knowledge that a large share of their gift went to pay off promoters and carelessly handled budgets, will discourage some from giving to any cause in the future.

The Community Chest, however, has nothing in common with the spur-of-the-moment appeals that have fallen into such disrepute. The Community Chest of Los Angeles is carefully managed by competent, responsible boards of leading citizens and actual funds are raised through the personal efforts of self-sacrificing volunteers. The agencies served by the Community Chest are many and all are worthy. Their budgets are scrutinized carefully long before they become beneficiaries of the Chest. Supporting your Community Chest is the genuinely American way of helping those less fortunate, assisting our youth to become better citizens and generally raising the moral tone of the entire community.

## Sponsored Speed

It is a sign of the times when civic organizations find themselves in the role of sponsors for speed demons. The Torrance Lions Club, in cooperation with other Lions Clubs in the Harbor area, are in the process of incorporating for the operation of a "drag Strip."

The "drag strip," in hot rod parlance, is a stretch of open road where the speedsters not only are not arrested for exceeding the limits, but are encouraged to break records. This one sponsored by the Lions will be located in a favorable setting somewhere between Torrance and Long Beach, an area said to have its share of young men handy with the tools and know-how in anything having to do with souped-up engines and cut-down chassis.

Theory behind the interest in such projects is that properly sponsored competition not only brings out the best in the participants, but actually encourages them to become more law abiding citizens of the highway. Police departments in several districts of the Los Angeles area have been sponsors of such events and report successful results. The mention of the word "hot rod" stirs some persons to mixed emotions. However, anyone with an appreciation for fine craftsmanship and youthful ingenuity can have nothing but respect for the builders of these remarkable little thunderbugs. It is good that their skill is being recognized and that they are being given this encouragement by the Lions.

## On Columnists

Recent headlines have told the stories of low-level court fights between more than one newspaper columnist, and another public figure or writer. In these cases it has become all too evident that certain writers have been, and are, using their columns as personal vehicles to vent their wrath, hatred and personal prejudices.

The free press is, of course, a great thing in our American way of life. It must be preserved at all cost. One of the unhealthy trends in U. S. journalism in the last few decades is the trend toward irresponsible columnists. The columnist today replaces, to some degree, the vociferous and personal editorials of the past.

While editorials have grown more dignified and tend to stress both sides of an issue, giving the facts and allowing the reader to appraise the entire situation, columnists do not operate in that manner.

Too many columnists attempt to sensationalize everything in the desire to get reader-appeal and sell their columns. Both the reading public and the columnists are to blame. Several New York and Washington columnists earn their living by feeding the public cheap gossip and sensational and inaccurate trash. They are not newspaper men in the real sense, but sensational gossip peddlers.

Yet, income figures show that these are the most popular "journalists" in the country. And they are often the ones involved in cheap court actions, such cases often revealing obviously inaccurate, untruthful and spiteful reporting.

Every citizen should make an honest effort to distinguish between reliable reporting and sensational gossip. Newspapers print irresponsible and scandalous columns because the public reads them and demands them, just as the public reads and demands low level and vulgar novels.

## Pedestrian Trust

California traffic laws place the burden of responsibility on the driver whenever a pedestrian in or near a cross-walk is injured. Out-of-state motorists are amazed to see the nonchalance of many pedestrians who blithely step into these walks almost without looking to right or left. They properly are stunned by such faith and wonder about our systems. There is no question but that crosswalks are needed and that pedestrians must be protected, if even from themselves. Yet, as one California traffic authority put it, it is plain suicidal tendency for any person to put his life in the hands of a traffic sign or a white mark on a pavement.

The person who steps briskly into a cross-walk, forcing a five-ton truck to come to a screeching stop, is not only risking his life but is plain inconsiderate. Again it goes back to simple courtesy and, when practiced by both pedestrian and driver, there is little or no excuse for the ever-increasing number of cross-walk accidents.

The average pedestrian is about 100 times as agile as the fastest motor car; but, he places himself at great disadvantage when his agility in getting into a bad spot exceeds his ability to get out.

## The Weather's Fine

The weather this week has brought out the worst in some native residents. They're actually complaining about the heat and humidity and some old timers are muttering they "can't remember when it was this bad."

Weather column fans of the daily newspapers need only to check reports from other sections of the country, notably the Middle West, to find consolation. It has been above 100 in the Chicago area and that is something when one gives a thought to humidity. All through this current heat wave there has been a pleasant breeze just around the corner and in late afternoon it has whipped into a sparker.

Yes, this weather is great and another reason why living in this Torrance area is a real privilege. And for those who couldn't take it there was that four-mile drive to the beaches.



## Criswell Predicts

An Accurate Glimpse of the Future

Criswell will answer your questions if you will write him in care of the Torrance Herald, signing your full name and address. Only letters will be used in the answers which will be returned as space permits. There is no charge for this service. Write Criswell Predicts today!

### COMING HUSH

HUSH EVENTS: A famed Washington hostess and party giver who will soon announce her engagement to a titled foreigner, will be forced to cancel this planned marriage, due to this diplomat's close connection with a troubled spot of the world. . . . Metropolitan Police will quietly seek out and arrest the known leaders in the now present "rat pack" gangs who roam the streets of our large cities. These boys will be forced to return to school until they are 18, and their powers over their gangs will be turned to good instead of evil. The day of the rat packs and juvenile gangs will soon be at an end! . . . The state of Florida will soon make a drive on undesirable motorists to escort them to the state line. The undesirable will be relief racketeers, social security spongers and others who live off the tourist trade dishonestly. This clean-up will attract nationwide attention!

### AND PLACES:

Supreme Court Justice Warren: Your deciding vote against the use of the 5th Amendment which provides an "out" for Communists at the present time, will end this coward's excuse for lack of patriotism and his flaunting of a American principles! The American Legion, the Parent-Teacher's Association and all Churches will back you in this coming decision! . . . Hollywood: Prepare for one of the greatest scandals you have ever had by the end of this year! . . . Robert L. Jones: Although Margaret Chase Smith defeated you in Maine, you will find yourself in Congress by the end of the coming session! London, England: The tourist trade will drop in 1955 due to the new port-of-entry charge! . . . Alfred Lunt and Lynne Fontaine: You will make a motion picture based on the Halls-Mills Murder Case of the 1930s! . . . Detroit, Michigan: Auto mobile production will be full fling in September on your new 1956 models! . . . Robert L. Young: Look for a further combine of railroads! . . . Mexico City: A multi-million dollar hotel will soon be constructed in your Reforma Center! . . . Jane Russell, Rhonda Fleming, Connie Haynes and Beryl Davis: Your feminine quartet will be joined by a male singer, Eddie Fisher, for a religious recording of "Lead Us Not Into Temptation" and "Shall We Gather At The River?" . . . Charles Drake: Your latest biography "The Life and Times of General Two-Gun Cohen" will be made into a super-scope film next year! . . . Suzie Canal: You will have been decided in the year 1960!

### JUST FOR YOU GIRLS:

A new type of girde with dynamic construction will make any girl's figure youthful and graceful. This sensational design will be the first revolutionary change in the corset industry for over fifty years! . . . Housekeeping will be much

easier in 1956 when the key-stone cabinets with their swing-out doors, garbage disposal units, mixer-jucier machine, plastic storage bins and adjustable working trays! . . . A low calory salad mold can be made from raw carrots, celery, apples and clear gelatin, which will not only be very tasty but also very thinning! . . . You will be able to make your own tomato aspie by using clear gelatin and catsup, and then allowing it to freeze in your ice box! . . . A new type of pattern will soon be issued which will have adhesive to the back which sticks to the material, and will not permit you to cut the material wrongly. This new type of jiffy sewing will cut your dress-making time down by at least one half! . . .

A sensational type of cold water dye which will give your old clothing a rain-bow coloring in ten seconds flat! . . . You will find that the bandeaux which were so popular in the 1920's will soon find great favor again. They will be worn at the eyebrow line and will be jeweled or plain, but will bring the color out of your eyes and will prove most flattering to the complexion! . . . You will be able to make money for your club or your church thru the old idea of the rummage sale combined with an old fashioned square dance! . . . Carmine lips will return in '56!

### Dear Criswell:

When I was free and single there was not a single man at my doorstep, and now that I'm married, and unhappily, I find myself faced with more suitors than I ever believed possible. It seems that the moment a woman is tied down and cannot marry for one reason or another, every man in sight seems to want her. Why couldn't they come around when I was unmarried? I married my husband for companionship and security as I'm 48 years of age, but do not love him and every day is a sad one. Do you think I'll find myself free once more, and will these men still be around?

Lorna 588.

### My Dear Lorna:

You tell me that your husband is 85 years of age and in bed, and which seems to indicate that his days are numbered, and you must be prepared for the morning he will not awaken. You will have your freedom, and although you do not love your present husband, you have made him extremely happy for you have been tolerant and kind, which he appreciates. There is another marriage for you, but be quite selective.

### Dear Criswell:

My daughter married an athlete, and I dread visiting them. Once he wrestled with me and almost broke my neck, completely ignoring my screams. Another time he was dropping out with barbells and dropped one

of them on my foot, crushing two toes. He runs around dressed like Adam in the Garden of Eden, which shocks me, for I'm hardly the Eve type. Must I take a physical culture course if I wish to continue visiting with them?

Mrs. Ellice N. XX9.

### My Dear Ellice:

Suggest to your daughter that she fix the garage as a gymnasium for her husband, and this will please him and make the house much safer for you. He does not think and fails to realize a woman is not built as strong physically as a man. When your grandchild is born, this man will be thinking more of his child than of his athletics.

### Dear Criswell:

Please do not print my name as I am the mother of a prominent movie star, and I do not want any gossip or publicity. My husband died many years ago and left me with quite a bit of money which I have invested. Now I find that the man who handled some of these ventures has a prison record, and I am worried about the money I gave him to invest for me. I have not discussed this with anyone for I am afraid the news will have me flat on my back. I'm not too well and can't stand a shock. Will I come through this all right?

Mrs. 66-11-G.

### My Dear Mrs. 66-11-G:

I somehow feel you will come through with flying colors, and this man has been quite honest since his release from prison. He was paroled and must respect this parole if he desires to once again take his place in society. Now I suggest you go to your attorney and tell him exactly what has happened. In the future, do all your investing through a reliable source and do not let anyone flatter you into trusting them.

### Dear Criswell:

My daughter just came home after spending a year in another state as a government employee. She brought a young man with her, an arrogant pup. She threw herself into my arms, and clung to me crying. I felt then what was upsetting her, and asked the man if he was responsible. He absolutely bragged that he was, and started boasting about other conquests he made. I told him he would have to marry my daughter, and he said that he'd think about it. Will my daughter be saved from disgrace?

Mrs. F.A., Rt. 4.

### My Dear Mrs. F.A.:

Have your husband and sons consult with this arrogant young man and they will make him see that he is responsible to your daughter and this expected child. He has gotten away before, but this time he must be made to do what is honorable. Do not weaken, but stand your ground.

# AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

Now and then when the inspiration moves me, I go through my pockets and ponder over worn out memos buried behind fragments of debris which accumulate between the rituals of dry cleaning. These brain-stimulants are the stock in trade of any reporter and admissible as evidence in any forum of private exploration.

Tonight after hours I would like to review two items, as they seem particularly appropriate in the atmosphere of the moment.

### Graduates and Their Future

Last week I delivered a commencement address, and after the ceremony the graduates came around to shake hands and some to pour out their dreams and aspirations on everything from getting a job to getting married, with Uncle Sam's permission, of course. "What vocation should I choose?" is always on top of the list. It's the toughest question to come to each year. In their caps and gowns the graduates look sharp, smart and serious. But there is a sadness and insecurity around a graduation.

Graduates move out on friends and teams and familiar faces into a somewhat uncertain future. It's a sudden transition from youth to maturity. Like death, you're never quite prepared for that next Monday morning when the routine is strangely missing. You set out to meet head on a more uncertain, more unpredictable world.

### The Heart Should Decide

The graduates were tense and serious as they politely sought the "benefit of our advice" as to the merits or demerits of certain vocations, enlisting in the armed forces, marriage, etc. I reached into my pocket and pulled out the hidden memos, for I know there is a recent one on the subject of choosing a vocation by a prominent authority. I unfolded it and told the little group around me the source . . . the president of the United States, when he made a comment on choosing a career to a few of us at the Press club in Washington. On the memo I had read President Eisenhower's own words: "The decision on choosing a career," the President said, "came to me a couple of weeks after my high school graduation. I was lost, confused, bewildered, with all kinds of uncertainties. In this atmosphere

of frustration I excluded every consideration in regard to my future, except one. I asked myself what I honestly do I want to do more than anything else in the world.

"I went deep into my heart. Money, prominence, prestige went out the window. The big deal was what single thing would thrill me, obsess me, to which I could give more toward than anything else. I listed on a piece of paper every imaginable vocation and career I could think of. The first one I put down was 'soldier.' It was also my last. I had let my heart decide."

### "Point-of-Order"

The nation was let in on some strange double-talk at the recent McCarthy-Army hearing. My private memos on the subject reveal some astonishing contradictions.

For example, when some Congressman yelled for "point of order" my notes say what he really meant was, "It's my turn to contribute to the disorder." When a congressman referred to "my distinguished colleague," my notes translated it into, "the dumb cluck."

"Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman" . . . usually meant that he wanted the TV camera to give him a break for the voters back home.

"Let's keep politics out of this" usually meant the other guy's politics.

"I shall need time over night to refresh my recollection" meant that he needed time to cook up a bigger story than the other guy.

"My learned friend" . . . means, my "stupid loggerhead." "I do not question your integrity" . . . means, "not further than I can watch you." "I shall be glad to enlighten the gentleman" . . . means, "hold still, wise-guy, while I get you a trap."

(Raps loudly on desk) . . .

"may I have the floor Mr. Chairman" . . . means he wants three TV cameras focused on him.

"Please repeat the question" . . . means, "how in the blazes will I squirm out of this one."

"I hope this irrelevant discussion will not be taken out of my time" . . . means, "I want my full cap watch you on TV."

"My information came from an unnamed person" usually means that the name will be slipped to the press after the hearing.

"Hearing Room" . . . a place where nobody wants to hear anyone but himself.



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## LAW IN ACTION

### TIPS FOR HOME BUYERS

Take several precautions when you buy a home:

1. You may wish to pay up your contract before full payment is due. Provide for this before you sign the contract, or else you may find yourself paying interest for the full time.

2. Suppose you can pay half down, or even less. Then you may get a deed and give a note and mortgage for the rest, sometimes a better way to pay for your home. It gives you the right to redeem if you miss payments.

### GET WRITTEN CONTRACT

Of course, examine the foundation, roof, and plumbing. Get a title insurance policy or abstract. Does it show the place free of mortgages, judgments, and taxes? What about the "liens" of contractors? What about easements? Easements are the rights of others to travel, lay pipes, or string wires through the place.

Pay your money over only when you get a written agreement to get your money back if title is not clear. Compare the legal description of the land with a property man, and with the land itself in relation to adjoining properties and roads. Be sure the legal description includes all the land you think you are buying. Suppose a well, heating system, or other appliance is guaranteed as adequate. Get this guarantee in writing.

Any agreement, preliminary or not, should state all the terms of sale. Before you sign, make sure that you know what you are binding yourself to do and what you are going to get in return.

NOTE: The State Bar of California offers this column for your information so that you may know more about how to act under our laws.

### IT'S A FACT

By JERRY CAHILL

**"HOW DID HOLYSTONES GET THEIR NAME?"**  
ANSWER NEXT ISSUE

**"THE MIKE AND IKE" GENERALS**



GEN. FELIX BRECK AND GEN. THEODORE BRECK, FATHERS OF THE BRECK BROTHERS, BOTH NAMED 8 POUNDS, GROWN UP WITH SAME WEIGHT, HEIGHT AND HANDSOME APPEARANCE. MIKE BECAME A GENERAL, IKE BECAME A GENERAL. THE SAME DAY (AT DIFFERENT PLACES), BOTH WON CROUX DE GUERRE AND LEGION D'HONNEUR. HEADING AND RETIRED THE SAME DAY!

**"MONUMENT TO PEACEMEN"**  
A BURRO THAT WORKED IN EVERY MINE AROUND



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